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BARNSTABLE, ss.	SUPERIOR COURT BARNSTABLE, SS Pled MAY 2.9 2019	F MASSACHUSETTS SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 1272CV00638
DAVID LEW, ADM OF THE ESTATE Q Plaintiff,		
MEREDITH GILSO DENISE DALLACO PMG PHYSICIAN A Defendants.		

DEFENDANT, DENISE DALLACOSTA, R.N.'S MOTION IN LIMINE TO PRECLUDE PLAINTIFF'S GROSS NEGLIGENCE CLAIM

Now comes the defendant, Denise Dallacosta, R.N. (now known as Denise Lorette, R.N.)

("Nurse Dallacosta"), and hereby moves this Court to preclude Plaintiff from alleging a theory of gross negligence, set forth against Nurse Dallacosta in Count XI and Count XII of the Plaintiff's Complaint. (Complaint, Exhibit A). In support thereof, Nurse Dallacosta states the following:

In Counts XI and XII of the Complaint, Plaintiff alleges Nurse Dallacosta engaged in "malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct", causing conscious pain and death. In order to establish malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct, a plaintiff must show that the defendant "knowingly or intentionally disregard[ed] an unreasonable risk", and the risk, when viewed prospectively, "must entail a high degree of probability that substantial harm would result to the plaintiff". Manning v. Nobile, 411 Mass. 382, 387-88 (1991)(internal citations omitted).

The Supreme Judicial Court has defined willful, wanton and reckless conduct as acting or intentionally failing to do an act which it is one's duty to another to do, knowing or having reason to know of facts which would lead a reasonable person to realize, not only that his

conduct creates an unreasonable risk of physical harm to another, but also that such risk is greater than that which is necessary to make his conduct negligent. See Sandler v. Commonwealth, 419 Mass. 334, 336 n.2 (1995). "The essence of wanton or reckless conduct is intentional conduct," and "[w]anton or reckless conduct is the legal equivalent of intentional conduct." Forbush v. City of Lynn, 35 Mass. App. Ct. 696, 699 (1994), quoting Commonwealth v. Welansky, 316 Mass. 383, 399 (1944). "[An] alleged wrongdoer acts wantonly, willfully and recklessly only when he inflicts the injury intentionally, or is so utterly indifferent to the rights of others that he acts as if such rights did not exist." Isaacson v. Boston, W. & N.Y. St. Ry. Co., 278 Mass. 378, 387 (1932).

Similarly, gross negligence is defined as negligence that is:

substantially and appreciably higher in magnitude than ordinary negligence. It is materially more want of care than constitutes simple inadvertence. It is an act or omission respecting legal duty of an aggravated character as distinguished from a mere failure to exercise ordinary care. It is very great negligence, or the absence of slight diligence, or the want of even scant care. It amounts to indifference to present legal duty and to utter forgetfulness of legal obligations so far as other persons may be affected. It is a heedless and palpable violation of legal duty respecting the rights of others. The element of culpability which characterizes all negligence is in gross negligence magnified to a high degree as compared with that present in ordinary negligence. Gross negligence is a manifestly smaller amount of watchfulness and circumspection than the circumstances require of a person of ordinary prudence. But it is something less than the willful, wanton and reckless conduct which renders a defendant who has injured another liable to the latter even though guilty of contributory negligence, or which renders a defendant in rightful possession of real estate liable to a trespasser whom he has injured. It falls short of being such reckless disregard of probable consequences as is equivalent to a willful and intentional wrong. Ordinary and gross negligence differ in degree of inattention, while both differ in kind from willful and intentional conduct which is or ought to be known to have a tendency to injure.

Altman v. Aronson, 231 Mass. 588, 592 (1919).

Here, the Plaintiff has put forth no evidence, by way of expected expert testimony or otherwise, that Nurse Dallacosta knowingly or intentionally disregarded an unreasonable risk

entailing a high degree of probability that substantial harm would result to plaintiff's decedent. There is no evidence in the case that Nurse Dallacosta's actions were knowing or intentional, or that she acted in a manner "so utterly indifferent to the rights of [plaintiff's decedent] that [she acted] as if such rights did not exist." See Isaacson, 278 Mass, at 387.

Likewise, there is no evidence in this case to support a claim that Nurse Dallacosta engaged in a "heedless and palpable violation of legal duty" or that she failed to exercise "even scant care." See Altman, 231 Mass. at 592. Plaintiff's allegations are simply that Nurse Dallacosta was negligent by failing to recognize and appreciate signs and symptoms of a developing pulmonary embolism; and document at the time of her VNA home visit that the patient was instructed to go to the Emergency Room. (Plaintiff's Second Suppl. to PTM p. 5, Exhibit B).

WHEREFORE, the defendant, Denise Dallacosta, R.N., respectfully requests that this Court dismiss Plaintiff's claims of gross negligence set forth in Count XI and Count XII of Plaintiff's Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

The Defendant,

DENISE DALLACOSTA, R.N.,

By Her Attorneys,

Edward T Hinchey, BBO #235090

Tanya K. Oldenhoff, BBO# 651006

Sloane and Walsh, LLP

Three Center Plaza, 8th Floor

Boston, Massachusetts 02108

(617) 523-6010

ehinchey@sloanewalsh.com toldenhoff@sloanewalsh.com

Dated: May 28, 2019

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Tanya K. Oldenhoff, Esquire of Sloane and Walsh, LLP, do hereby certify that on this 28th day of May 2019, I caused the within document to be served by email and first class mail, postage prepaid to the following counsel of record:

COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF

Robert M. Higgins, Esq.
Barrie Duchesneau, Esq.
Lubin and Meyer, P.C.
100 City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02108
rhiggins@lubinandmeyer.com
bduchesneau@lubinandmeyer.com

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT, MEREDITH GILSON, M.D.

Ellen Epstein Cohen, Esq.
Megan Grew Pimentel, Esq.
Adler, Cohen, Harvey, Wakeman, Guekguezian, LLP
75 Federal Street, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
ECohen@adlercohen.com
MPimentel@adlercohen.com

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT, PMG PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Daniel J. Buoniconti, Esq. Kristina Ragone, Esq. Foster & Eldridge, LLP One Canal Park, Suite 2100 Cambridge, MA 02141 dbuoniconti@fosteld.com kragone@fosteld.com

Tanya K. Oldenhoff

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BARNSTABLE, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION NO.

DAVID LEW, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JASON LEW, Plaintiff,

V.
MEREDITH GILSON, M.D.,
DENISE DALLACOSTA, R.N., AND
PMG PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES, P.C.,
Defendants.

COMPLAINT

Count I.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, is the duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew and is a resident of Kennesaw, Cobb County, Georgia.
- The defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., was at all times relevant to this complaint a physician licensed to practice her profession in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- This action is brought to recover for the wrongful death of Jason Lew for the benefit of his next of kin, pursuant to M.G.L.A. c. 229 §1 et seq.
- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, the defendant, Mcredith Gilson, M.D., represented and held herself out to be a physician, skilled in the treatment of various illnesses and conditions and, in particular, represented to the plaintiff's decedent that she was knowledgeable, competent, and qualified to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's condition on or about April 2011.
- 5. On or about April 2011, the plaintiff's decedent submitted himself to the care and treatment of the defendant, Micredith Gilson, M.D., who negligently, carelessly, and without regard for the plaintiff's decedent's health and well-being, treated the plaintiff's decedent in a manner resulting in the plaintiff's decedent's death on April 2011.
- 6. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, were the direct and proximate result of the carelessness, unskillfulness, negligence and improper care and treatment by the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., including, but not limited to the following:

- a. Defendant's misrepresentations to the plaintiff's decedent that she was knowledgeable, skillful, and competent to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's medical condition on or about April 2011;
- Defendant's failure to adequately and properly diagnose the plaintiff's decedent's medical condition on or about April 2011, and her failure to prescribe proper and timely treatment for said condition;

- c. Defendant's failure to recognize, or have the knowledge to recognize her inability and lack of skill to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent, when the defendant knew or should have known in the exercise of the care, the foresecable consequences of her inability and failure to properly and skillfully provide the plaintiff's decedent with acceptable medical and diagnostic services;
- d. Defendant's failure to possess or negligent failure to exercise that degree of skill, training, and care as is possessed and exercised by average qualified members of the medical profession practicing her specialty; and
- e. Defendant's failure to inform and to warn of the risks involved in or associated with the plaintiff's decedent's condition and failure to inform and to warn about the treatment of said condition.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count II.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count I above, as
 if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- 2. This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Lew.
- As the direct and proximate result of the carelessness and negligence of the defendant, Meredith
 Gilson, M.D., the decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time
 of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count III.

 The plaintiff, David Lew, is the duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew and is a resident of Kennesaw, Cobb County, Georgia.

- The defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., was at all times relevant to this complaint a physician licensed to practice her profession in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- This action is brought to recover for the wrongful death of Jason Lew for the benefit of his next of kin, pursuant to M.G.L.A. c. 229 §1 et seq.
- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., represented and held herself out to be a physician, skilled in the treatment of various illnesses and conditions and, in particular, represented to the plaintiff's decedent that she was knowledgeable, competent, and qualified to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's condition on or about April 2011.
- 5. On or about April 2011, the plaintiff's decedent submitted himself to the care and treatment of the defendant, Mercdith Gilson, M.D., who negligently, carelessly, and without regard for the plaintiff's decedent's health and well-being, treated the plaintiff's decedent in a manner resulting in the plaintiff's decedent's death on April 2011.
- 6. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct of the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., or by the gross negligence of the defendant on or about April 2011.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with punitive damages, interest and costs.

Count IV.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count III above, as
 if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Low.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct of the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., the decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., for the above described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with punitive damages, interest and costs.

Count V.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count I above, as
 if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- On or about April 2011, the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., contracted with the plaintiff's decedent to provide professional services related to the plaintiff's decedent's medical care and treatment.
- 3. The defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., expressly and impliedly warranted to the plaintiff's decedent that she would perform and render said professional services in accordance with accepted standards for the practice of medicine, and that she would possess and exercise that degree of skill and care possessed and exercised by the average qualified members of the medical profession practicing her specialty.
- 4. On or about April 2011, the defendant, Mcredith Chison, M.D., breached her express and implied warranties by failing to perform and render professional services in accordance with accepted standards for the practice of medicine, and by failing to possess and exercise that degree of skill and care possessed and exercised by the average qualified members of the medical profession practicing her specialty, which breach resulted in the death of Jason Lew.
- 5. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D.'s breach of express and implied warranties.

WHERBFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count VI.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Five of Count V above,
 as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Lew.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the breach of express and implied warranties by the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., the plaintiff's decedent, Jason Low, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count VII.

The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
and resvers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count J above, as
if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.

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- 2. On or about April 2011, average qualified members of the medical profession practicing the defendant's specialty knew or should have known of the risks, potential consequences and alternatives to the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- On or about April 2011, the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., knew or should have known of the risks, potential consequences and alternatives to the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 4. On or about April 2011, the defendant, Meredith Ollson, M.D., did not inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of irrestment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 5. If the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., had informed the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent, neither the plaintiff's decedent nor a reasonable person in his position would have elected the defendant's choice of treatment.
- 6. The alternatives to and the risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment were material to a decision by the plaintiff's decedent and a reasonable person in his position as to whether to undergo the defendant's choice of treatment.
- 7. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D.'s failure to obtain the informed consent of the plaintiff's decedent.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count VIII.

- The plaintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Seven of Count VII
 above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Lew.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D.'s failure to inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's treatment, the decedent, Jason Low, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Low, prays judgment against the defendant, Meredith Gilson, M.D., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count IX.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, is the duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew and is a resident of Kennesaw, Cobb County, Georgia.
- The defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., was at all times relevant to this complaint a nurse licensed to practice her profession in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- This action is brought to recover for the wrongful death of Jason Low for the benefit of his next of kin, pursuant to M.G.L.A. c. 229 §1 et seq.
- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., represented and held berself out to be a nurse, skilled in the treatment of various illnesses and conditions and, in particular, represented to the plaintiff's decedent that she was knowledgeable, competent, and qualified to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's condition on or about April 2011.
- 5. On or about April 2011, the plaintiff's decedent submitted himself to the care and treatment of the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., who negligently, carclessly, and without regard for the plaintiff's decedent's health and well-being, treated the plaintiff's decedent in a manner resulting in the plaintiff's decedent's death on April 2011.
- 6. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, were the direct and proximate result of the carclessness, unskillfulness, negligence and improper care and treatment by the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., including, but not limited to the following:
 - a. Delicidant's misrepresentations to the plaintiff's decedent that she was knowledgeable, skillful, and competent to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's medical condition on or about April 2011;
 - Defendant's failure to adequately and properly diagnose the plaintiff's decedent's redical condition on or about April 2011, and her failure to prescribe proper and timely treatment for said condition;
 - c. Defendant's failure to recognize, or have the knowledge to recognize her inability and lack of skill to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent, when the defendant knew or should have known in the exercise of due care, the foresecable consequences of her inability and failure to properly and skillfully provide the plaintiff's decedent with acceptable nursing services;
 - d. Defendant's failure to possess or negligent failure to exercise that degree of skill, training, and care as is possessed and exercised by average qualified members of the nursing profession practicing her specialty, and

e. Dollandant's failure to inform and to warn of the risks involved in or associated with the plaintiff's decedent's condition and failure to inform and to warn about the treatment of said condition.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jeson Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count X.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Peragraphs One through Six of Count IX above,
 as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- 2. This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Low.
- As the direct and proximate result of the carclessness and negligence of the defendant, Denise DallaCosts, R.N., the decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Dealec DallaCosta, R.N., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count XI.

- The plaintiff, David Low, is the duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Low and is a resident of Kennesaw, Cobb County, Georgia.
- The defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., was at all times relevant to this complaint a nurse licensed to practice her profession in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- This action is brought to recover for the wrongful death of Jason Lew for the benefit of his next of kin, pursuant to M.G.L.A. c. 229 §1 et seq.
- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., represented and held herself out to be a nurse, skilled in the treatment of various illnesses and conditions and, in particular, represented to the plaintiff's decedent that she was knowledgeable, competent, and qualified to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's condition on or about April 2011.
- 5. On or about April 2011, the plaintiff's decedent submitted himself to the care and treatment of the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., who negligently, carelessly, and without regard for the plaintiff's decedent's health and well-being, treated the plaintiff's decedent in a manner resulting in the plaintiff's decedent's death on April 2011.
- The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the malicious, willful, wanton or

reakless conduct of the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., or by the gross negligence of the defendant on or about April 2011.

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WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with punitive damages, interest and costs.

Count XIL

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count XI above,
 as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Low.
- As the direct and proximate result of the malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct of the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., the decedent, Juson Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with punitive damages, interest and costs.

Count XIII.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count IX above,
 as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- On or about April 2011, the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., contracted with the plaintiff's
 decedent to provide professional services related to the plaintiff's decedent's nursing care and
 treatment.
- 3. The defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., expressly and impliedly warranted to the plaintiff's decedent that she would perform and render said professional services in accordance with accepted standards for the practice of nursing, and that she would possess and exercise that degree of skill and care possessed and exercised by the average qualified members of the nursing profession practicing her specialty.
- 4. On or about April 2011, the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., breached her express and implied warranties by failing to perform and render professional services in accordance with accepted standards for the practice of nursing, and by failing to possess and exercise that degree of skill and care possessed and exercised by the average qualified members of the nursing profession practicing her specialty, which breach resulted in the death of Jason Lew.

5. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and preximate result of the defendant, Denise DaliaCosta, R.N.'s breach of express and implied warranties.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Low, prays judgment against the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count XIV.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Five of Count XIII
 above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- 2. This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Low.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the breach of express and implied warranties by the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., the plaintiff's decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Donise DallaCosta, R.N., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count XV.

- The plaintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Low, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count IX above,
 as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- On or about April 2011, average qualified members of the nursing profession practicing the defendant's specialty knew or should have known of the risks, potential consequences and alternatives to the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- On or about April 2011, the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., knew or should have known of the risks, potential consequences and alternatives to the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 4. On or about April 2011, the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., did not inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 5. If the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., had informed the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent, neither the plaintiff's decedent nor a reasonable person in his position would have elected the defendant's choice of treatment.

- 6. The alternatives to and the risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment were material to a decision by the plaintiff's decedent and a reasonable person in his position as to whether to undergo the defendant's choice of treatment.
- 7. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N.'s failure to obtain the informed consent of the plaintiff's decedent.

WHEREFORE, the pisintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Low, prays judgment against the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count XVI.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Seven of Count XV
 above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- 2. This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Lew.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N.'s failure to inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's treatment, the decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Low, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, Denise DallaCosta, R.N., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count XVII.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, is the duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew and is a resident of Kennesaw, Cobb County, Georgia.
- The defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., was at all times relevant to this complaint a
 corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
 with a principal place of business at 139 Sandwich Street, Plymouth, in Plymouth County,
 Massachusetts.
- 3. This action is brought to recover for the wrongful death of Jason Lew for the benefit of his next of kin, pursuant to M.G.L.A. c. 229 §1 et seq.
- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, represented and held itself out to be a medicine, skilled in the treatment of various illnesses and conditions and, in particular, represented to the plaintiff's decedent that it was knowledgeable, competent, and qualified to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's condition on or about April 2011.

5. On or about April 2011, the plaintiff's decedent submitted himself to the care and treatment of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, who negligently, carelessly, and without regard for the plaintiff's decedent's health and well-being, treated the plaintiff's decedent in a manner resulting in the plaintiff's decedent's death on April 2011.

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- 6. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, were the direct and proximate result of the carclessness, unskillfulness, negligence and improper care and treatment by the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, including, but not limited to the following:
 - Defendant's misrepresentations to the plaintiff's decedent that it was knowledgeable, skillful, and competent to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's medical condition on or about April 2011;
 - Defendant's failure to adequately and properly diagnose the plaintiff's decedent's medical condition on or about April 2011, and its failure to prescribe proper and timely treatment for said condition;
 - c. Defendant's failure to recognize, or have the knowledge to recognize its inability and lack of skill to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent, when the defendant knew or should have known in the exercise of due care, the foreseeable consequences of its inability and failure to properly and skillfully provide the plaintiff's decedent with acceptable medical and diagnostic services;
 - d. Defendant's failure to possess or negligent failure to exercise that degree of skill, training, and care as is possessed and exercised by average qualified members of the medical profession practicing its specialty;
 - Descendant's failure to inform and to warn of the risks involved in or associated with the
 plaintiff's decedent's condition and failure to inform and to warn about the treatment of
 said condition; and
 - Defendant's failure to exercise reasonable care in hiring, supervising, employing and/or continuing to employ its agents, servants, or employees.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMO Physician Associates, P.C., for the above described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count XVIII.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count XVII
 above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Low.

3. As the direct and proteinate result of the carelessness and negligence of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, the decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMO Physician Associates, P.C., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count XIX.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, is the duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew and is a resident of Kennesaw, Cobb County, Georgia.
- The defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., was at all times relevant to this complaint a
 comporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
 with a principal place of business at 139 Sandwich Street, Plymouth, in Plymouth County,
 Massachusetts.
- 3. This action is brought to recover for the wrongful death of Jason Lew for the benefit of his next of kin, pursuant to M.G.L.A. c. 229 §1 et seq.
- 4. At all times relevant to this complaint, the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, represented and held itself out to be a medicine, skilled in the treatment of various illnesses and conditions and, in particular, represented to the plaintiff's decedent that it was knowledgeable, competent, and qualified to diagnose and treat the plaintiff's decedent's condition on or about April 2011.
- 5. On or about April 2011, the plaintiff's decedent submitted himself to the care and treatment of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, who negligently, carelessly, and without regard for the plaintiff's decedent's health and well-being, treated the plaintiff's decedent in a manner resulting in the plaintiff's decedent's death on April 2011.
- 6. The death of Jason Low and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, or by the gross negligenes of the defendant on or about April 2011.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with punitive damages, interest and costs.

Count XX.

The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count XIX above,
as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.

- 2. This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Lew.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the malicious, willful, wanton or reckless conduct of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, the decodent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with punitive damages, interest and costs.

Count XXI.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count XVII
 above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- On or about April 2011, the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants,
 or employees, contracted with the plaintiff's decedent to provide professional services related to
 the plaintiff's decedent's medical care and treatment.
- 3. The defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, expressly and impliedly warranted to the plaintiff's decedent that it would perform and render said professional services in accordance with accepted standards for the practice of medicine, and that it would possess and exercise that degree of skill and care possessed and exercised by the average qualified members of the medical profession practicing its specialty.
- 4. On or about April 2011, the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, breached its express and implied warranties by failing to perform and render professional services in accordance with accepted standards for the practice of medicine, and by failing to possess and exercise that degree of skill and care possessed and exercised by the average qualified members of the medical profession practicing its specialty, which breach resulted in the death of Jason Lew.
- 5. The death of Jason Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his funeral and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C.'s breach of express and implied warranties.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count XXII.

The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Five of Count XXI
above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.

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- 2. This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decedent, Jason Lew.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the breach of express and implied warranties by the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, the plaintiff's decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer consciously up to and until his time of death.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as daily appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

Count XXIII.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, repeats
 and reavers all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs One through Six of Count XVII
 above, as if expressly rewritten and set forth herein.
- 2. On or about April 2011, average qualified members of the medical profession practicing the defendant's specialty knew or should have known of the risks, potential consequences and alternatives to the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 3. On or about April 2011, the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, knew or should have known of the risks, potential consequences and alternatives to the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 4. On or about April 2011, the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, did not inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent.
- 5. If the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents, servants, or employees, had informed the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment of the plaintiff's decedent, neither the plaintiff's decedent nor a reasonable person in his position would have elected the defendant's choice of treatment.
- 6. The alternatives to and the risks and potential consequences of the defendant's choice of treatment were material to a decision by the plaintiff's decedent and a reasonable person in his position as to whether to undergo the defendant's choice of treatment.
- 7. The death of Juson Lew and the damage to his estate, including, but not limited to his functal and burial expenses, were the direct and proximate result of the defendant, PMO Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents', servants', or employees' failure to obtain the informed consent of the plaintiff's decedent.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., for the above-described wrongful death and damage to the estate, together with interest and costs.

Count XXIV.

- The plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, ropeals
 and reavers all of the allogations contained in Paragraphs One through Seven of Count XXIII
 above, as if expressly rowritten and set forth herein.
- This action is brought to recover for the conscious pain and suffering of the decodent, Jason Lew.
- 3. As the direct and proximate result of the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., by its agents', servants', or employees' failure to inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives to and risks and potential consequences of the defendant's treatment, the decedent, Jason Lew, was caused to suffer conscionsly up to and until his time of death.

WHREFORE, the plaintiff, David Lew, as duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Jason Lew, prays judgment against the defendant, PMG Physician Associates, P.C., in an amount to be determined by a jury, together with interest and costs.

PLAINTIFF CLAIMS TRIAL BY JURY.

Respectfully submitted,

The plaintiff, By his attorney,

MNDREW C. MEYER, J

LUBIN & MEYER, P.C.

100 City Hall Plaza

Boston, MA 02108 (617) 720-4447

BBO#: 344300

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BARNSTABLE, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 2012-00638

DAVID LEW, ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE ESTATE OF JASON LEW,
Plaintiff.

V.
MEREDITH GILSON, M.D.,
DENISE DALLACOSTA, R.N., AND
PMG PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES, P.C.,
Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE PRE-TRIAL MEMORANDUM

VI. EXPERT WITNESSES

A. Plaintiff's Expert Witnesses

The following expert may be called to testify at the time of trial depending upon the scheduling of the trial by the court and the expert's availability. To the extent the expert listed below is unavailable to testify at the time of trial, the plaintiff expects to call to trial, as a substitute for any such expert, an expert who is expected to testify to the same opinions and on the same grounds.

PAUL GENECIN, M.D. 340 Saint Ronan Street New Haven, CT 06511

Dr. Genecin may be expected to testify, specifically, but not limited thereto, as to the standard of care required by the defendants, their departure from that standard of care, the causal relationship between the defendants' negligence, gross negligence and Mr. Lew's injuries and death, and the nature, cause, extent, findings, diagnosis, prognosis, as well as his conscious pain and suffering as a result of the defendants' departure from the standard of care required of them.

Dr. Genecin may be expected to testify both generally and with specific reference to Mr. Lew's case regarding: post-surgical care following eraniotomy including but not limited to the complications, treatment, prognosis, nursing care, therapies, and medications; Coumadin, its indications, contraindications, monitoring of patients on Coumadin in day to day life, preoperatively and post operatively, its complications, risks and benefits; atrial fibrillation, its causes, effects, treatments, diagnosis and prognosis; hypertension, its causes, effects, treatments,

diagnosis and prognosis; chest pain, its causes, signs, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, prognosis, the significance of chest pain in a patient such as Jason Lew; Pulmonary embolism/thromboembolism and its causes, signs, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and measures taken when there is a suspicion of embolism; Mr. Lew's conscious pain and suffering as well as his life expectancy based upon Dr. Genecin's education, training and experience, as well as the U.S. Life Tables; and the literature regarding these topics.

Dr. Genecin will testify that the defendants failed to inform Mr. Lew of the material risks of his condition and the risk associated with the defendants' proposed course of treatment, and failed to inform the plaintiff's decedent of the alternatives available to the defendants' proposed course of treatment. The plaintiff's decedent should have been informed of such risks and alternatives, if he had been informed of the appropriate information, he would not have consented to the defendants' proposed course of treatment.

The Plaintiff's expert will base his opinions on his education, training, skill, knowledge, experience and review of the relevant medical records and other documents provided to him in connection with this case.

The expert may be expected to testify to the following facts:

Mr. Lew worked as a mental health aide and had a past medical history significant for atrial fibrillation, hypertension, hyperlipidemia and malignancy (not specified). His atrial fibrillation was treated with Coumadin.

On 3/24/11, Mr. Lew was struck on the head by a patient. Near the end of his shift he became confused and then unresponsive. EMS was called, and he was transported to the Falmouth Hospital ER. Upon arrival to the hospital he was still unresponsive and was intubated. A head CT scan showed a large subdural hematoma with a midline shift. He was immediately transferred to Cape Cod Hospital (CCH) for care by a neurosurgeon.

Upon arrival to CCH, Mr. Lew was transported directly to the operating room for an emergency craniotomy to evacuate a large right-sided acute subdural hematoma. Because he had been taking Cournadin, an anticoagulant, for his atrial fibrillation, his coagulation had to be corrected before he went to the operating room. For this reason, he was given 5mg of Vitamin K and 2 units of fresh frozen plasma intravenously in the Cape Cod Hospital Emergency Room. During the procedure, he was found to have a large, right, acute, subdural hematoma with two cortical bleeders. The clot was evacuated and the bleeding stopped with bipolar diathermy. On 3/25/11, a post-operative pulmonary consult noted that Mr. Lew remained intubated and recommended that a tapering of sedation be followed by extubation if possible. He was placed in venodyne boots in an effort to reduce the risk of deep vein thrombosis and subsequent pulmonary embolism. Post-operatively, his blood pressure was monitored by the medical service.

By the morning of 3/29/11, Mr. Lew was breathing on his own and able to ambulate to the bathroom with a walker and had a steady gait. At this time he denied any chest pain or shortness of breath but noted mild knee pain. Later on the 29th, the physical therapist recorded

that Mr. Lew was independent getting from supine position in bed to standing and that he was able to walk 150 feet twice with a rolling walker. It was also noted that his ability to walk had improved compared to 3/27/11. When check by the nurse at 9:20 PM on 3/29/11, he no longer had any pain in his knee. On 3/30/11, he continued to deny any pain, was alert and awake, and his incision was clean, dry and intact. The plan was to discharge him to home with VNA services.

On 3/30/11 Mr. Lew was discharged home. He was to start physical rehabilitation at home as part of the VNA services the following day. A neurosurgical discharge referral was completed on 3/28/11. It noted that Mr. Lew's discharge diagnosis was head trauma/SDH. It noted that Mr. Lew was not on Coumadin and was to follow up with Dr. Gilson. The referral included the 10 medications he was prescribed when he left the hospital. A nursing – patient care referral was completed on 3/30/11 and faxed to the VNA. The diagnoses listed on the nursing referral were 1) right acute subdural hematoma with mass effect/midline shift; 2) respiratory failure; and 3) knee pain. The referral also noted that Mr. Lew was independent in all of his activities with the assistance of his rolling walker.

On 3/31/11, Mr. Lew had his first visit. The VNA Referral-Clinical listed his medical problems as 1) traumatic subdural hematoma; 2) aftercare injury/trauma; 3) atrial fibrillation; and 4) hypertension. The reason given for the services was status post subdural hematoma, craniotomy, aftercare. It was noted that Mr. Lew was discharged home with a walker. He was having moderate pain (4/10) in his 'anterior head'. He had no shortness of breath. The exam of his thorax was normal. He was noted to be weak, deconditioned; only walking occasionally and required assistance with activities of daily living. He was to have visits from a skilled nurse one to two times a week for nine weeks.

On 4/4/11, visiting nurse, Denise DallaCosta, RN, visited Mr. Lew at home. Nurse DallaCosta arrived at 1:15 p.m. and left at 1:45 p.m. Nurse DallaCosta noted that Mr. Lew complained of mild (3/10) achiness to his right knee that radiated throughout the knee. She also indicated that Mr. Lew was concerned about moderately severe (6/10) left sided chest pain. This pain had not been recorded previously. Mr. Lew described it as stabbing at times, increasing with position change and deep inspiration, and was uncontrollable. He was unable to tolerate sustained activity greater than 2-5 minutes without having to rest because of fatigue and pain. He declined to ambulate during this visit. At rest he had no shortness of breath and his oxygen saturation was 98%. The pain was so severe that it woke him up at night and affected his mobility. Nurse DallaCosta noted one of her primary concerns to be pulmonary embolism. She suggested warm packs and pain medication, and instructed Mr. Lew to call 911 if the pain or shortness of breath increased or he became lightheaded. Nurse DallaCosta called Mr. Lew's primary care physician, Mcredith Gilson, M.D. to inform her of Mr. Lew's new symptoms. Nurse DallaCosta was told Dr. Gilson would call Mr. Lew to schedule an appointment. Mr. Lew was instructed to follow up on his doctor appointment.

On 4/5/11 at 12:30 p.m., an occupational therapist from the VNA, arrived at Mr. Lew's house. She noted that Mr. Lew appeared to be having difficulty attending to conversation and was nodding off. He had 10/10 sharp left chest pain that occurred when standing, lying down and with a deep breath. Mr. Lew had shortness of breath with inhalation. The occupational

therapist called Dr. Gilson's office and spoke to a nurse to tell her that she was sending Mr. Lew to the emergency room. There is no indication in Dr. Gilson's records that she planned to evaluate the patient at any time or advised Mr. Lew to seek treatment at an emergency room. A voicemail was left for Nurse DallaCosta to notify her of the situation. On 4/5/11, Mr. Lew was discharged from the VNA due to his hospitalization for pulmonary embolus.

Upon Mr. Lew's arrival to the Falmouth Hospital BR, he was noted to have difficulty breathing, increased shortness of breath, and continuous left chest pain. The onset of his symptoms was reported as being gradual over the course of three days but suddenly worse on 4/511. He was tachycardic, hypotensive and tachypneic. His oxygen saturation measured 0 upon arrival to the emergency room. CT scan with and without contrast showed a large 'saddle embolus' (straddling the bifurcation of the main pulmonary artery) with extensive peripheral pulmonary emboli and right heart strain resulting from the extent of 'clot burden'. He was intubated and transferred to Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) for specialized care to remove the embolus blocking blood flow to Mr. Lew's lungs.

On the way to the BWH ER, Mr. Lew had labile blood pressures and was given norepinephrine. Upon his arrival at BWH he suffered a cardiac arrest. Cardiac surgery was notified and arrangements were made for an emergent surgical thrombectomy. Mr. Lew underwent a salvage surgical pulmonary embolectomy. He tolerated the procedure reasonably well but remained critical on the basis of his pre-operative presentation.

On 4/6/11, at 3:53 p.m., Nurse DallaCosta made a phone call to Mr. Lew's fiancé regarding his emergency room evaluation. The same day Nurse DallaCosta made an addendum to her original note from the previous day and that Mr. Lew had declined an emergency room evaluation at the time of her visit.

On post-operative day one, Mr. Lew required high pressor and inotropic support and nitric oxide ventilation. He was subsequently weaned off nitric oxide. On post-operative day two he received 7 units of fresh frozen plasma for INR reversal. He was subsequently re-started on a heparin drip due to his pulmonary embolus. He continued to require significant pressors and intravenous fluid resuscitation due to labile blood pressures. On post-operative day three, Mr. Lew was made DNR/DNI. On post-operative day four, due to increasing pressor requirements, continued evidence of renal and liver failure and overall poor prognosis, the family elected to make Mr. Lew comfort measures only.

Mr. Lew died on 4/8/11 at 2:40 p.m. from acute pulmonary thrombocmbolism.

Dr. Genecin may be expected to testify that pulmonary embolism is a blockage of the main artery of the lung or one of its branches by a substance that has travelled from elsewhere in the body through the bloodstream (embolism). Pulmonary embolism most commonly results from deep vein thrombosis (a blood clot in the deep veins of the legs or pelvis) that breaks off and migrates to the lung. The deep vein thrombosis may cause leg and/or knee pain. Physical findings in patients with deep vein thrombosis may be minimal swelling and/or tenderness in the mid-portion of the calf. Because of reduced mobility, patients are at a heightened risk of developing deep vein thrombosis, and thus pulmonary embolism, for at least five weeks

following surgery. When blood flow through the lungs is obstructed, it cannot be oxygenated. This results in shortness of breath. Patients may experience this as breathlessness or fatigue with activity or even at rest. If an embolus is small enough to reach to the periphery of the lung it can cause exquisite pain because it lodges near the innervation of the pleural nerves. This then results in chest pain (pleurisy - inflammation of the tissue lining the lung) that worsens with breathing. Peripheral pulmonary emboli are more apt to result in pleuritic chest pain although it may also be a symptom of larger more central emboli.

Treatment for pulmonary embolism includes anticoagulation therapy, and surgical intervention such as pulmonary embolectomy. If left untreated, a pulmonary embolism can lead to death.

Dr. Genecin may be expected to testify that for these reasons, the accepted standard of care in Massachusetts from 2011 to the present has required the average qualified registered nurse to: 1) recognize and appreciate the risk of pulmonary embolism to a patient eleven days post operatively; 2) recognize and appreciate that when a patient, eleven days post-operative, develops chest pain that increases with breathing and also has knee pain it is highly likely that the patient has developed pulmonary emboli; 3) recognize and appreciate that pulmonary embolic can be life threatening; 4) recognize and appreciate that when pulmonary embolus is considered in a differential diagnosis, it must be acted upon as an emergency and the patient must be sent to an emergency room where the patient will have emergency imaging to know if a pulmonary embolism is present; 5) notify the patient that pulmonary embolism is a life threatening condition; and 6) document, at the time of the visit, if the patient was instructed to go to an emergency room.

In Dr. Genecin's professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, the care and treatment rendered to Jason Lew by Denise DallaCosta, R.N. on 4/4/11 fell below the accepted standard of care at the time for the average qualified registered nurse when Nurse DallaCosta failed to: 1) recognize and appreciate the risk of pulmonary embolism to a patient eleven days post operatively; 2) recognize and appreciate that when a patient, eleven days post-operative, develops chest pain that increases with breathing and also has knee pain it is highly likely that the patient has developed pulmonary emboli; 3) recognize and appreciate that pulmonary embolis can be life threatening; 4) recognize and appreciate that when pulmonary embolus is considered in a differential diagnosis, it must be acted upon as an emergency and the patient must be sent to an emergency room where the patient will have emergency imaging to know if a pulmonary embolism is present; 5) notify the patient that pulmonary embolism is a life threatening condition; and 6) document, at the time of the visit, if the patient was instructed to go to an emergency room.

In Dr. Gencein's professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty as a direct result of Nurse DallaCosta's failure to comply with the accepted standard of care, as outlined above, Mr. Lew suffered a premature and preventable death due to cardiac arrest from pulmonary thromboembolism. Had Nurse DallaCosta rendered care in accordance with the accepted standard of care, as outlined above, Mr. Lew would have been admitted to the hospital on 4/4/11, would have been treated with anticoagulation therapy, and if needed had surgical

intervention prior to suffering a cardiac arrest, and more likely than not would not have suffered a premature and preventable death.

Dr. Genecin may be expected to testify that the accepted standard of care in Massachusetts from 2011 to the present has required the average qualified family medicine physician to: 1) recognize and appreciate the risk of pulmonary embolism to a patient eleven days post operatively; 2) recognize and appreciate that when a patient, eleven days post-operative, develops chest pain that increases with breathing and also has knee pain it is highly likely that the patient has developed pulmonary emboli; 3) recognize and appreciate that pulmonary emboli can be life threatening; 4) recognize and appreciate that when pulmonary embolus is considered in a differential diagnosis, it must be acted upon as an emergency and the patient must be sent to an emergency room where the patient will have emergency imaging to know if a pulmonary embolism is present; 5) notify the patient that pulmonary embolism is a life threatening condition; and 6) document if the patient was instructed to go to an emergency room.

In Dr. Genecin's professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, the care and treatment rendered to Jason Lew by Meredith Gilson, M.D. on 4/4/11 fell below the accepted standard of care at the time for the average qualified family medicine physician when Dr. Gilson failed to: 1) recognize and appreciate the risk of pulmonary embolism to a patient eleven days post operatively; 2) recognize and appreciate that when a patient, eleven days post-operative, develops chest pain that increases with breathing and also has knee pain it is highly likely that the patient has developed pulmonary emboli; 3) recognize and appreciate that pulmonary emboli can be life threatening; 4) recognize and appreciate that when pulmonary embolus is considered in a differential diagnosis, it must be acted upon as an emergency and the patient must be sent to an emergency room where the patient will have emergency imaging to know if a pulmonary embolism is present; 5) notify the patient that pulmonary embolism is a life threatening condition; and 6) document if the patient was instructed to go to an emergency room.

In Dr. Genecin's professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty as a direct result of Dr. Gilson's failure to comply with the accepted standard of care, as outlined above, Mr. Lew suffered a premature and preventable death due to cardiac arrest from pulmonary thromboembolism. Had Dr. Gilson rendered care in accordance with the accepted standard of care, as outlined above, Mr. Lew would have been admitted to the hospital on 4/4/11, would have been treated with anticoagulation therapy, and if needed had surgical intervention prior to suffering a cardiac arrest, and more likely than not would not have suffered a premature and preventable death.

The expert will also rebut the anticipated expert testimony of the defendants.

Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement this disclosure prior to trial.

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Respectfully submitted, The plaintiff, By his attorneys,

Robert M. Priggins
BBO#: 567229
Barrie S. Duchesneau
BBO#: 673794
LUBIN & MEYER, P.C.
100 City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 720-4447

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BARNSTABLE, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 2012-00638

DAVID LEW, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JASON LEW, Plaintiff.

V. MEREDITH GILSON, M.D., DENISE DALLACOSTA, R.N., AND PMG PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES, P.C., Defendants.

Expert Witness Certification

I, Paul Genecin, M.D., have been retained as an expert witness by the Plaintiff in the above referenced matter. I have reviewed the expert disclosure as set forth within the Plaintiff's Second Supplement to the Pre-Trial Memorandum. I hereby certify that I will testify consistent with the disclosure contained in said document as it applies to me and that it accurately states the subject matter(s), the substance of the facts and opinions, and a summary of the grounds for the opinion(s), to which I expect to testily at the trial of this case.

Paul Genecin, M.D.